

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention relates to an apparatus and a method for managing power in a computer system. A filter driver can be equipped with a packet monitoring function or the like detects whether devices mounted in the computer system are in the idle state. If a device is in the idle state, the power mode of the corresponding device is varied to the power down mode, independent of the system power mode state that has been set up by the operation system in the computer system. In this manner, power supplied to devices in the idle state is reduced, and it becomes possible to have a more efficient control over the load of the computer system. Overall, preferred embodiments according to the present invention can be very advantageously used for developing and expanding the computer system more simply by adding the filter driver into the system, without changing a device driver in the computer system.